

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-07 SS-15 ARA-06 CIAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3537

USMISSION USUN

INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 6076

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN KS KN RQ PL

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: KOREA

REF: (A) STATE 212814, (B) STATE 212199

1. DCM CALLED ON POLISH MFA IO CHIEF PAWLAK TODAY TO DISCUSS PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION SUBMITTED TO THE UN AUGUST 16. DRAWING ON POINTS OUTLINED IN REF A, DCM EXPRESSED USG'S KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT OVER POLAND'S CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THIS RESOLUTION, PARTICULARLY ON THE HEELS OF THE CONTENTIOUS AUGUST 5 NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT AND THE BRUTAL MURDER OF US ARMY OFFICERS BY NORTH KOREAN ARMY PERSONNEL ON AUGUST 18. DCM SAID THAT POLISH CO-SPONSORSHIP OF RESOLUTION WAS INCONSISTENT WITH THE GOOD STATE OF US-POLISH BILATERAL RELATIONS AND COULD NOT FAIL TO HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THOSE RELATIONS. HE SAID THAT THE US BELIEVES NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED IS STILL THE BEST APPROACH TO A SOLUTION OF THE TENSIONS WHICH EXIST IN KOREA. THIS APPROACH, OUTLINED IN THE SECRETARY'S JULY 22 SEATTLE SPEECH
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(A COPY WAS LEFT WITH PAWLAK), WOULD AVOID THE KIND OF STERILE

CONFRONTATION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH OCCURRED LAST YEAR. WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT THE POLISH DELEGATION WILL USE ITS INFLUENCE TO AVOID SUCH A RANCOROUS DEBATE. WITH THAT IN MIND, WE WILL WATCH CAREFULLY THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE POLES CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE CONCILIATORY EXCHANGE IN THE UPCOMING ASSEMBLY. FINALLY, DCM MADE THE POINT IN PARA 4 REF A CONCERNING THE INAPPROPRIATENESS OF CO-SPONSORSHIP BY POLAND IN LIGHT OF ITS MEMBERSHIP ON NEUTRAL NATIONS COMMISSION OF KOREAN ARMISTICE.

2. IN REPLY, PAWLAK SAID HE REGRETTED VERY MUCH THAT USG FELT OBLIGED TO MAKE THIS DEMARCHE AND ESPECIALLY OUR LINKAGE OF POLISH ACTION ON CO-SPONSORSHIP WITH THE STATE OF BILATERAL TIES. THESE TIES, HE STRESSED, ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO POLAND, AND NO ONE IN A POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY IN POLAND WANTS TO SEE THEM DAMAGED. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THE GOP'S POSITION ON THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA (I.E., THROUGH DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA), IS WELL-KNOWN AND OF LONG STANDING. CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THIS YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS CONSISTENT WITH THAT POSITION, AND INDEED ITS LANGUAGE IS "SOFTENED" SOMEWHAT OVER PREVIOUS DRAFTS. AS FAR AS WARSAW IS CONCERNED, THE RESOLUTION CAN BE EVEN FURTHER "SOFTENED" THROUGH NEGOTIATION. AS FOR THE PANMUNJOM INCIDENT, POLAND'S CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE KOREAN RESOLUTION IN NO WAY WHATSOEVER CONSTITUTES AN ENDORSEMENT OF NORTH KOREAN BEHAVIOUR ON AUGUST 18. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, PAWLAK SAID HE THOUGHT THIS WAS A MOST TRAGIC AND UNNECESSARY OCCURRENCE, ONE THAT COULD ONLY EXACERBATE AN ALREADY TENSE SITUATION. HE SAID HE HOPED THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN WARSAW HAD TAKEN NOTE OF THE MINIMUM PUBLICITY GIVEN THIS INCIDENT IN THE POLISH PRESS. THE DCM INTERJECTED THAT THIS MAY BE LITERALLY TRUE, BUT A PRACTICALLY VERBATIM PRINTING IN POLISH PAPERS OF THE NORTH KOREAN PRESS RELEASE, WITHOUT COMMENT, HARDLY CONSTITUTED OBJECTIVE JOURNALISM. IN CONCLUSION PAWLAK INSISTED POLISH CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE RESOLUTION WAS IN NO WAY MEANT TO BE AN ANTI-AMERICAN GESTURE. DCM SAID THIS MAY BE POLISH INTENTION, BUT THE RESOLUTION ITSELF, COMBINED WITH THE HARSH NORTH KOREAN AUGUST 5 STATEMENT AND THE BRUTALITY OF THE NORTH KOREANS ALONG THE DMZ, ADDED UP TO A MOST DISAGREEABLE SCENE IN US EYES, AND WE CANNOT IGNORE THE POLISH CO-SPONSORSHIP ACTION OR PRETEND THAT IT IS ISOLATED FROM THE TOTALITY OF OUR RELATIONSHIP.

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3. PAWLAK SAID HE WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT AND OTHER UN-RELATED TOPICS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS, AND HE HOPES THE MEETING TENTATIVELY AGREED TO BETWEEN MR. LEWIS AND MINISTER WIEJACZ CAN TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER.
DAVIES

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